UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice FLP-74**

1910-A

For: State and County Offices

Creditworthiness Determinations

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Loan Programs

Carolyn B. Cooksie

| 1 Overview | |
|--|---|
| A Background | FSA loan approval officials make determinations about acceptable credit history. |
| B Purpose | This notice provides guidance for determining creditworthiness for direct loans. |
| 2 Action | |
| A Loan Approval Official Determinations | The loan approval official will make determinations of acceptable credit history in direct programs according to FmHA Instruction 1910-A, Section 1910.5(c). |
| B Determining Creditworthiness | Nonpayment of debts or delinquent payments that were within an applicant's control may be used as an indication of unacceptable credit history. However, there are certain circumstances that do not constitute unacceptable credit history according to FmHA Instruction 1910-A, Section 1910.5(c). |
| | Continued on the next page |

| Disposal Date | Distribution |
|---------------|--|
| July 1, 2000 | State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices |

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2 Action (Continued)

B

Determining Creditworthiness (Continued)

In addition, applicants may be determined not creditworthy if any of the following applies, they:

- deliberately falsify information
- intentionally omit information relevant to the loan decision
- do not make every reasonable effort to meet the conditions and terms of the proposed loan.

These individuals may also be subject to criminal prosecution and should be referred to OIG.

C Approving Official

If the applicant has an unacceptable credit history, the loan approval official shall:

- . deny the loan on the basis of a lack of creditworthiness (7 CFR 1910.5)
- . provide applicant with appeal rights
- . include specific reasons for the adverse decision:
 - . on FmHA 440-2
 - . in the Notification of Eligibility/Ineligibility sent to the applicant.

D Contact

State Offices, with questions about this notice, may contact Kathleen Miller, LMD, at 202-720-1643.

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